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A SHORT
ACCOUNT
OF
MARY WESTON, JUN.
K
LATE OF UPTON,

IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX;

*Particularly the favoured State of her Mind during
her last Illness.*

PUBLISHED AT THE REQUEST OF HER FATHER.

LONDON:

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NO. 55, GRACECHURCH-STREET.

1799.

A SHORT
ACCOUNT

MARY WESTON JUN.



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1841

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LONDON

Printed and sold by DARTON and DARTON,
No. 7, GRACECHURCH LANE.

1792

A
SHORT ACCOUNT
OF
MARY WESTON, JUN.

MARY WESTON, daughter of Owen and Mary Weston, was born at or near Wapping, on the twenty-third day of the Fifth Month, 1771: her mother died when she was very young; in consequence of which she was sent out to school at an early age, where she was kept several years; and it has been remarked that, during that time, she never was known to tell an untruth on any occasion whatever. In this she evinced a steady adherence to the advice of her mother, when she took her last leave;

and which, indeed, remained fresh on her memory, through all the succeeding periods of her life. She conscientiously avoided all servile flattery, and deceitful professions of friendship; yet she possessed a very lively vivacious disposition, and an inclination to gaiety; but her father was piously careful to discourage all improper indulgences in these respects. She had many times through life to acknowledge, that much of her preservation depended upon that kind, parental care, which was extended towards her, without being mixed with harshness; and that it was greatly the means of her steering such a course, as brought her to a comfortable prospect of peace in her concluding hours. Notwithstanding which, her natural disposition, at times, gained the ascendancy; and there was a time, when she seemed to have made up her mind to pursue the bent of her inclination in vanities and pleasures, contrary to all restraint; but

but at this important instant, it pleased the Author of blessings to extend his visitation of love and light in a peculiar manner.

Her disposition was remarkably affectionate, blended with an amiable candour; and her mind was much enlarged by a portion of that charity or divine love, that, far from opposing the course of natural affection, draws it, as it were, into it's own current, and extending through the different degrees of social relation, includes every class and description of human kind, in it's desires for the happiness of all. It gave her pain to find in characters, otherwise estimable, the want of this principle, evinced by giving way to illiberal prejudices, severe judgings, and contemptuous expressions. Being sensible of her own failings, she had learned to make charitable allowance for the weaknesses of others, and was more willing to con-

leal, than expose them; and when they arose in conversation, used to treat them with tenderness.

It has pleased Divine Providence to take from us a beloved companion, at a season of life when all it's pleasures are most enjoyed, and heightened by the colouring of youthful vivacity. Whilst we cherish the remembrance of what was virtuous and amiable in her character, we desire to lose our selfish regrets, in the consciousness that she is removed to a state of superior happiness, beyond the reach of sorrow and sickness. She was one, who "remembered her Creator in the days of her youth;" and when evil days came, she was not forgotten or forsaken by him: for it is well known to some of her nearest connexions, and probably to them only, that she had to sustain many trials both from within and without; and that many have been her occasions to acknowledge the
the

the gracious assistance of an almighty Preserver, who was her defence in temptation, her support in weakness, her guide through difficulties, and her comforter in every affliction.

Her mind was, from her childhood, impressed with a sense of religion, which, from time to time, checked her vivacity and repressed her ambition, and appeared, by it's fruits of meekness, submission, forbearance, and tender assiduity to perform kind actions, and render affectionate services; which frequently tinged her conversation with seriousness.

She sustained, when very young, an irreparable loss, in the death of a virtuous mother, whose early instructions she cherished in her memory, and spoke of as a benefit, but a few weeks before her death. At the same time, she expressed the satisfaction it was to her, in reviewing her past life, that she

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had

had always cheerfully submitted her own inclinations, to fulfil the desires of an affectionate father, which was rendered an easy duty, by the kindness of his behaviour towards her.

She had by nature a lively sensibility of temper, that made her easily elated by pleasure, or cast down by trouble; she was apt to be much depressed when she met with unkindness, but never to resent it, or to speak of any person with malice. She was desirous of being informed of her faults, and when, at times, through incaution, the vivacity of her nature betrayed her into errors in conversation, she was thankful on being made sensible of them, and ready to acknowledge them with candour.

She was blessed with a good understanding, which she was very desirous of improving, by the acquisition of useful knowledge, and took great pleasure in receiving

receiving information concerning the works of Nature; and during the last few years of her life, she was placed in a situation, that enlarged her circle of acquaintance, and afforded more ample opportunities of increasing her stock of knowledge. An equally pleasing disposition for communication, appeared in her willingness to inform, which she did with a peculiar sweetness and diffidence; the progress of her observations was attended with a suitable humbling sense of the wisdom and goodness of the great Creator of all things.

To this end she was convinced, that applying the mind to some useful branches of knowledge, proportionate to it's capacity, greatly contributed to preserve it from the love of dissipation, by opening a source of superior enjoyment.

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She being open, affable, sprightly, and courteous in her disposition, agreeable in her person, and of an improved understanding for her years, her company was the more sought for; and from about the age of sixteen to twenty, she was in a situation which exposed her to the temptations of unsuitable associates; and being much from under the eye and guardianship of her surviving parent, was in danger of being led into gaiety of dress and manners, but for the kind and friendly care of a very steady, amiable, and religious young woman of our society, Hephzibah Knight, who lived in the same house with her, in the capacity of a servant; who piously studied to make home agreeable to her, and dissuaded her from contracting improper intimacies with the young women of the neighbourhood, which she thought would be injurious to her mind; and was evidently made, in a great measure, the instrument of her preservation from
the

the surrounding snares, which she was afterward gratefully sensible of, and this proved the means of uniting them in the bonds of solid religious friendship. This young woman being taken ill, and removed, in consequence, to another place, not long after died of a consumption. During her illness, our friend, Mary Weston, visited her, and the following memorandum found in her pocket-book, is an indication of her sincere regard for one who had been made a blessing to her through the favour of Divine Providence; the first great cause of all that is truly good.

12th Mo. 30th. I this day visited my
1791. dear friend, Hephzibah
Knight; she was glad to
see me; was very ill, but
quiet, and waiting patiently the appointed time*.

* H. Knight died on the 7th of the 1st Mo.
1792, aged about 25 years.

12th Mo. 31st. Returned home, and
1791. thus finished a painful year;
the vicissitudes of my life
may be compared to a trou-
bled sea.

Increase, ye cares, my guilty heart to mend,
Fly swift, ye hours, to bring a peaceful end;
Submit, my senses, to th' unpleasing yoke,
Prepare my way for death's unerring stroke.
This heart, subdu'd by sad affliction's reign,
With languid sickness drooping in her train,
If bless'd with hopes and intellectual light,
May live to own, "Whatever is, is right."

Mary Weston had a lively talent for poetical composition, which she sometimes indulged; and the following, being written on the death of her friend above mentioned, seems not undeserving a place in this little memoir.

AN
ELEGY
ON
HEPHZIBAH KNIGHT.

WHEN the fair planets, with mild lustre bright,
And all the evening host the heavens emblaze,
Chas'd by the radiance of superior light,
"The little stars hide their diminish'd rays."

So shone, diminish'd by superior powers,
Hid by the slighted character she bore *,
A kind companion of my pensive hours,
Whose friendship lost, my bosom must deplore.

Had fortune smil'd auspicious on her birth,
And to a favouring world conspicuous rais'd,
If modish manners had enhanc'd her worth,
Her virtues, then, a partial world had prais'd,

But modest manners shun the public eye,
Lov'd by a few, she liv'd to bloom unseen;
For heaven allotted her no station high,
Yet rais'd her thought above the vulgar mien.

* A servant.

If sensibility has charms to please,
Unaided by refining strokes of art;
In nature's softest loveliness and ease,
Spoke the mild tenor of her gentle heart.

Whate'er displays a noble height of mind,
Engaging manners and ingenious taste,
By virtue's pow'r, more amiably refin'd,
So sweetly simple, and so purely chaste.

A thirst for knowledge fill'd her lib'ral soul,
Though its fair search adversity repress'd.
Her rising genius felt the rude control,
Yet smil'd to see it's small acquirements bless'd.

Her vital spirits sunk, and health declin'd,
Progressive symptoms of a swift decay;
But Gilead's healing balm preserv'd her mind,
And hope and resignation mark'd her way.

Near life's last agony, she sweetly said,
To poor Letitia*, weeping by her side,
Repress thy tears, be all thy cares repaid;
Just press'd her hand, in grateful love, and died.

Her soul, incumber'd with this mortal mass,
Repos'd in heaven's unfailing source it's trust,
Smil'd at the gulph profound it soon must pass,
Glad when her ashes blended with the dust.

* Her sister.

Like some fair flower, beneath the passing gale,
That wafts it's grateful odours to the sky,
Too fair to grace, with lasting bloom, this vale,
Meekly it bends it's beauteous head, to die.

Then what avails the roseate bloom of health,
Since e'en *her* powers too feeble are to save;
Nor weeping friendship, nor the boast of wealth,
Retards our painful progress to the grave.

Ah! where's th' advantage wealth or honours
know?

And health and beauty, fancy's fleeting joy;
More than the most afflictive stroke of woe,
Since death can these relieve, and those destroy.

Though friendship deeply feels the recent wound,
Fond hope, exulting, cheers the silent gloom,
Spreads more than visionary light around,
And draws instruction from an early tomb.

Thus youth may cease of flatt'ring joys to boast,
Transient, like sunshine in a winter's day;
E'en age may languish for a happier coast,
When earth's uncertain fabric moulds away.

Ratcliff, 1792.

The foregoing instance of real and important usefulness is the more worthy of notice, as it may hold out an encouragement to others in like humble situations, to attend to the internal dictates of truth, whereby they may be made helpful to individuals, in whatever way it may please divine Providence to bless them, being persuaded that no condition or station in life precludes us from religious services in some way or other, and which must ever have a natural tendency to endear us to those, to whom we may be made a blessing; as is also evinced in the account we have of the captive maid, who waited on the wife of Naaman; and in the instance of Naaman's own servants, in their friendly expostulation with him, when he seemed ready to refuse a compliance with the prophet's instructions, for the healing of his leprosy. See 11 Kings, ch. v.

Not-

Notwithstanding the providential preservations she had experienced, and the sense of good she had at times been favoured to feel, she had still much to contend with, in respect to her propensity to gaiety of dress and manners; and seemed almost ready to give the reins to her natural inclinations; and at one time in particular, as she has since acknowledged, she was at the point of throwing off every restraint of parental authority and admonition, with a resolute determination, to take her swing in all the pleasures and gratifications of the world, which were within the sphere of her command. When brought to this critical state of mind, it pleased the ever-adorable Father of mercies, who graciously follows us through the windings of our own paths, to put forth his preserving hand, to deliver her, as from the paw of the "lion" and of the bear*."

* 1 Samuel, ch. xvii. v. 37.

To record the following circumstance, which has a reference to the foregoing paragraph, it may be necessary to adhere, as strictly as possible, to her own language, and the manner in which she communicated it to a friend, who called to see her, before she was confined by her last illness, but which she foresaw was coming on. "I thought," said she, "before I threw off those restraints, that I would go to meeting, that afternoon, being first day, and would be determined by what I might there meet with; which meeting thou attended, and stood up with that passage of scripture: "My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: bind them continually upon thy heart, and tie them about thy neck; when thou goest it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest it shall keep thee; and when thou wakest it shall talk with thee: for the commandment is a lamp; and the
"law

“ law is light; and reproofs of instruc-
“ tion are the way of life*.” The re-
“ cital of this passage, and the subse-
“ quent observation, so fixed on my
“ mind, as effectually to change my de-
“ signs of future life; and from that
“ time I was determined to turn my
“ back upon my former resolutions, to
“ deny myself of those promised indul-
“ gencies and gratifications, to pursue
“ that which would ensure my future
“ peace; which determination I have
“ been mercifully enabled not to for-
“ sake. That meeting I have cause to
“ remember, with the greatest satisfac-
“ tion and gratitude to the Almighty;
“ and I have ever since considered thee
“ as a father, though, I believe, all un-
“ known to thee till now.

“ This I have felt an inclination, for
“ some time past, to inform thee of, be-

* Proverbs, ch. xiv.

“ fore I am taken away, for thy encouragement in the path of duty to Him who hath called thee into his service.”

This was communicated to the friend at a time when he was very low, and exceedingly discouraged, under an apprehension that he had never been rendered useful to any one in a spiritual sense.

Domestic circumstances induced her, from motives of commendable prudence, to seek some suitable way of procuring for herself the needful accommodations of life, by an employment which might be at once suited to the delicacy of her constitution, and afford her that friendly asylum she so much stood in need of, under depressing anticipations, and mental conflicts. Her father's acquaintance with James Shephard, of Upton, near London, very providentially introduced her to a situation in his family, where she met with that kindness and friendly sympathy

sympathy she stood in need of under trying circumstances. She was placed there, in the capacity of a tutoress to his children; for which employment she possessed no inconsiderable qualifications, and the duties of her station she discharged to the satisfaction of the parents; and at the same time, her amiable deportment endeared her to their minds, as well as to the objects of her tender charge. It was ever her study to render their learning easy and pleasant, by blending amusement with their instruction; and her little pupils she governed by a law of tenderness and affection.

A little before the commencement of her last illness, she was, for a considerable time, under a very distressing dispensation, and her mind was so clouded, as to fall into a state of despondency; but often felt ashamed of her own sentiments, and endeavoured to conceal them at the time; she attended meetings,

meetings, from which she would gladly have absented herself, had it not been for exciting the enquiry of others respecting the cause, and, therefore, went with the family, with whom she then resided; but knowing the condition of her own mind, she was afraid of being in the presence of those she supposed to be persons of penetration, lest they should have a sense of the state she was in, in which conflict a language was raised in her mind, "A Saviour, or I die; a Redeemer, or I perish." This became the fervent exclamation of her soul. Some ministering friends, from distant places, having, at that time, an opportunity in the family, whilst she was under this cloud, her state was particularly addressed; and spoken of as a day of general breaking up of all things; and, from that time, she experienced the cloud of darkness removed, and her mind clothed with heavenly thoughts; light and comfort attended her from day

to day, which divine favour was extended to her in a very particular manner. During that dispensation of darkness, her mind was rendered extremely uncomfortable, not only to herself, but the visible effects of it were distressing to her friends, particularly in the family in which she lived. It appears that she had given some account of the exercises of mind she was then under, in a letter to her sister Deborah, (by one which was written by her sister in answer to it) in a style which indicated a mind possessed of affectionate sympathy, having herself passed through many very trying scenes; and who has been since released from all earthly conflicts by the awful stroke of death, not many months after Mary. The following is an extract from the letter above mentioned.

“ My dear sister’s letter I received on
“ third day last; and she is, this even-
“ ing, in a particularly affectionate man-
“ ner,

“ ner, brought to my remembrance;
“ also, how my mind was, for some
“ weeks, oppressed, and what one suf-
“ fers from such a state of dejection of
“ spirits, without knowing the cause.
“ It was to me a preparative season to
“ meet the deep conflicts which became
“ my portion; and, under it, I found
“ nothing but a steady dependance upon
“ Him, who is a munition of rocks to
“ fly to in the day of trouble, would do:
“ seeking unto this, it was, that enabled
“ me to bear, with, I trust, a degree of
“ fortitude, these deep conflicts. Let
“ then, my dear sister, not be discour-
“ aged, should her present state of
“ mind be as a preparation for some fu-
“ ture dispensation. Should it prove a
“ sacrifice, called for by the great Mas-
“ ter, mayest thou be obedient thereto;
“ there is no doubt but his reward will
“ be with it. Let it be of what nature
“ so ever, I sympathize in sisterly affec-
“ tion with thee, under thy present
“ feeling,

“ feeling, praying for thy preservation
“ in every allotment.”

Soon after this, her health began gradually to decline, and it was, at an early period, sealed upon her mind, that she should not recover; she then clearly saw, that it was, indeed, a time of general breaking up, as she expressed many times afterwards.

At the solicitations of her near relations, she consented to have medical advice and assistance, and removed to London, in the fifth month, 1797, for the purpose of being nearer the person she chose to put herself under the care of. After a patient trial of those means of relief, without success, further than palliating some of the symptoms, her kind and hospitable friends at Upton, where she had lived for near five years, were solicitous for her return, in hopes that the situation might prove advantageous

geous to her, and that she might be restored to them again; this friendly offer she accepted, and accordingly returned, but continued gradually declining, and the symptoms of a pulmonary consumption increased upon her.

Some time before she was so ill as to be confined to the house, she asked her medical friend, what he really thought of her complaints; and observing some hesitation in his giving an answer, she said, "Thou needst not be afraid of telling me; the thoughts of death are not distressing to me; for I am fully assured that, whenever I may be taken, I shall be happy."

At one time, visiting her after being confined to the house, she mentioned a prospect she had of being called into the ministry of the gospel, which greatly bowed her mind, and brought her under deep exercise of spirit; the thoughts of
standing

standing publicly in the Lord's cause, she said, was so awful to her, that she freely offered her natural life as a sacrifice in it's stead, if it might be accepted. In the frequent opportunities which she had with the same person, she expressed herself with freedom, and communicated much more than he has thought proper to impart to others, respecting her secret mental exercises, which she had to pass through on various accounts; being spoken confidentially. She observed how much her mind had often been hurt, and her spirit wounded, when young in years, in observing some persons in our society, very plain in their appearance, and who professed to be scrupulous of many trifling outward things, in respect to dress, &c. whilst their private conduct in much more important points, did not appear to be regulated by the pure principle of truth.

In another of those interviews, she also expressed that she had often been sorry to observe, that the younger part of our society, in particular, who did not wear so plain an appearance as might be desirable, were so little noticed by divers of the exemplary and religious part, more advanced in years; when many of them would be glad of the company and counsel of those whom they looked up to as fathers and mothers in the church: she signifying, that she believed much benefit would accrue were the youth taken kindly by the hand, and invited to their houses to spend some of their leisure hours, for want of which, as well as from their own diffidence, they were too much excluded those privileges they would prize, and left to associate with such as they could derive little, if any, advantage from, in religion. She lamented that the doors of hospitality and
friendship

friendship were not more benevolently opened to the youth; that the dawnings of heavenly good upon their minds might be cherished, by the countenance of those more advanced in religious experience, and who, it is hoped, have not forgotten the time when the pure seed of the kingdom of righteousness and peace was first sown in their own minds; yet she acknowledged with pleasure, that there were those concerned to promote the cause of truth and righteousness, to whom the younger classes may find an easier access than they many times expect, if they would be prevailed upon to introduce themselves under a proper inclination of mind, and make themselves more known to such, whom they have looked up to with religious esteem. That the seeming distance and reserve in the deportment of those, is oftentimes more in appearance than reality; and frequently results rather from the

want of a more intimate knowledge of each other, than any actual aversion on either side.

At one time, her medical attendant sitting by her bedside, whilst she was labouring under great bodily pain, she asked him if any thing could be done, to relieve her from such suffering. He told her, he believed it was out of the reach of medicine: to which she made answer, in an accent and manner indicating the most entire tranquillity and resignation of mind, "Then, that's all very well;" and proceeded immediately in conversation on another subject, as if her pain had been taken away; and thus she frequently expressed herself very instructively to those about her, without seeming conscious that she had said any thing worthy of observation.

In conversation with a young woman, one of her most intimate acquaintance, she said, "Thou hast sometimes wondered at my exposure in meetings of discipline, for little, very little, acts of faithfulness, for which I now receive a sweet reward. I used to think a death-bed would be a bed of repentance to me; but by yielding obedience in times past, it is quite otherwise."

After she had been confined several weeks to her bed, and reduced to a state of great weakness, inasmuch, that a little conversation seemed almost to exhaust her small degree of strength, she expressed a particular wish to see her relations and acquaintance, especially the younger class, for whose preservation and welfare she was uniformly solicitous. They were introduced separately to her bedside, when she was remark-

ably strengthened to communicate solid religious counsel to them, under the influence and openings of divine love and life, and in the spirit of pure wisdom; under which the minds of many were greatly humbled in deep contrition; and it is to be hoped such impressions were then made in the hearts of individuals as may be productive of good. She next requested to see both the men and women servants of the house, by whom she was esteemed for her amiable deportment, when in health; each of them she also saw separately, whose civilities and attention to her in times past, she acknowledged with diffidence and humble gratitude, and gave some of them sweet counsel, as her last legacy of love; and one, in particular, who had been convinced of the principles of friends, she advised to seek a settlement upon that foundation, which will stand sure, the rock of ages, and not
to

to be contented with any superficial attainments, or a fair character amongst men.

After these debts of love were discharged to her acquaintance pretty generally, her mind seemed more gathered from the world, as though she thought her work was nearly finished, and she did not seem to expect to continue many more days; but the time of her departure was hidden from her, perhaps for the further trial of her patience.

A friend calling to see her, some time after, she had an apprehension that her end was very near, she observed to him, " I did not expect to have been here till
" this time, and why I am continued so
" long I cannot tell, unless it may be
" for the sake of some others I am yet
" to see. Some time after this, she again said, " Perhaps I am kept here the
c 4 " longer,

“ longer, because I have been too de-
“ firous of going, and being releas’d
“ from this state of suffering, that so all
“ the will and impatience of the creature
“ may be done away.”

A friend who had frequently sat by her in much silence, one day observed to her, that it might seem rather strange, that he had so little to say, considering their intimate friendship: to which she replied, “ There is often more instruc-
“ tion to be derived from the company
“ of our friends in silence, than when
“ there are verbal communications.”

On a first day afternoon, her father, two of her sisters, and another near relation, were sitting by her in silence, when she said, “ It has occurred to me, since our
“ holding silence together, and, I be-
“ lieve, I must mention it; Can the
“ children of the bride chamber mourn,
“ while

“ while the bridegroom is with them?
“ and though it is a time of outward
“ mourning, yet there is secret joy.”
And a little time after, she said, “ I feel
“ the influence of heavenly love more
“ and more; and the nearer my end
“ approaches, the stronger it grows;
“ and it seems now, as if I was forget-
“ ting all here, and that the heavenly
“ Father will soon take me.” Thus
her cup was often made to overflow with
heavenly consolation, which she impart-
ed, in short sentences, to those about
her, to their instruction and comfort.

Amongst the instructive and solid
observations she made to her rela-
tions and friends, who visited her, there
were many which evinced the state of
preparation she was in, for the ap-
proaching awful change. She also
spoke of the view she had of the white
raiment,

raiment, the white stone, and of the heavenly rest.

A few days before her departure, she shewed more evident signs of approaching dissolution; which she perceived with the same composure and resignation she had been favoured with throughout her illness; and in the fore part of the day on which she died, she said to her sister, "Now I hope all my sufferings are nearly at an end, and that I shall soon be with my heavenly Father." She died on the 31st day of the 10th month, 1797, in the 27th year of her age. She suffered much from pain and extreme difficulty of breathing, with which she closed her last moments, in great serenity, at the house of James Sheppard, at Upton, in Essex. She was, through the several stages of her illness, favoured with a clear understanding.

Thus

Thus it has pleased the almighty Dispenser of life and death, to cut off a fair flower in the height of summer, and to leave the parent stem, bereft of its ornament. May it be his consolation, to rest assured, that her endeavours after righteousness have been acceptable in the sight of her heavenly Father, who undoubtedly looks down with favour on the humble efforts and intentions of the sincere and upright heart, but beholds afar off the boasted deeds of the vain-glorious and self-sufficient. "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil." (Ecclesiastes xii. 14.)

On the 7th day of the 11th month, her corpse was carried to Friends' meeting-house at Plaistow, it being her particular desire to be carried there.

It

It was attended by several Friends in the ministry, and others, from London; and was an opportunity favoured with fulfilment of the ancient promise, that, "They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength;" and proved a season of much tenderness; particularly with divers young persons, to whom she had been united by the endearing ties of affection and sincere friendship.

Her remains were taken to Friends' burial-ground at Ratcliff, where, after a silent pause, succeeded by some solid ministerial communications, they were solemnly interred.

This little memoir is not to preserve any thing like a panegyric to the memory of the deceased, or for any possible advantage it can be to her, who is far removed from the influence of any thing which may be said on this occasion:

sion; but to hold up to survivors another instance, amongst those already recorded, of divine favour eminently extended, by the Father of mercies, to one in the flower of her age; who was summoned from the stage of mutability in the meridian of life; that others, and particularly those who knew her, may be induced to follow, as she did, the Captain of salvation, that their ends may, like her's, be crowned with the same indubitable assurance of eternal happiness, which enables the soul, triumphantly, to exclaim, "O, Death! where is thy sting? O, grave! where is thy victory?" that when removed from the fore conflicts of time, and the many trials incident to the present life, we may, through the medium of Christ, our adorable advocate and mediator, obtain admission into the ever-enduring realms of light and peace.

*On finding in Mary Weston's Pocket Book a
Reference to Ecclesiastes, chap. xiii. v. 7.*

BY AN INTIMATE FRIEND.

CEASE, Memory, with assiduous care to lend
To Death's dark shade thy retrospective art,
To paint the anguish of a dying friend,
And the past sufferings of her mortal part.

Though never more her words my ear engage,
In converse serious, sensible, and sweet,
I see her finger pointing to the page,
Where Consolation and Instruction meet.

There tutor'd every trial to sustain,
Of adverse incident or mental strife,
She bow'd submissive to her lot of pain,
"In sure and certain hope" of endless life.

Unlike the votaries of festive Ease,
Who high in Folly's strain their purpose own,
Resolv'd each form of revel joy to seize,
And bind their brows with Pleasure's rosy crown.

"For when our transient race through time is run,
"No chance, they cry, can wasted life repair *,"
"But, like the mist before the morning sun,
"The vital spirit shall dissolve in air."

* See chap. 2 of the Wisdom of Solomon.

Far other Hope from Wisdom's fountain flows ;
Far other lessons Nature's book reveals ;
Far other prospects Reason's lights disclose ;
And Truth's eternal word the promise seals :

That when, in Nature's course, the appointed
hour

Resigns our frame to Death's resistless force,
The conscious soul, superior to his power,
Shall rise rejoicing to its heavenly source.

THE END.

The only hope from Wilson's fountain flows;
 For other fountains Nature's hand has reared;
 The other fountains of the world are dried;
 And Time's eternal wheel the fountain feeds;
 That when in Nature's course the appointed
 hour

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Had we only the power to his power,
 The conflict of his power to his power,
 Shall this be going to its heavenly source.

THE END.